



LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas CA 91302

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

9:00 AM

June 7, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Sophia Crocker.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at **9:00 a.m.** by Board President Lewitt in the Board Room at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District headquarters at 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302. The meeting was conducted via teleconference pursuant to the provisions of Assembly Bill 361, which suspended certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act to support social distancing guidelines associated with response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Susan Brown, Administrative Assistant, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Charles Caspary, Jay Lewitt, Lynda Lo-Hill, Len Polan, and Lee Renger
Absent: None
Staff Present: David Pedersen, General Manager
Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs
Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration (via teleconference)
John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations
Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board
Susan Brown, Administrative Assistant
Keith Lemieux, District Counsel

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF FINDINGS OF RESOLUTION NO. 2609 (AB 361)**

Director Renger moved to approve the agenda and approve the findings of Resolution No. 2609 (AB 361). Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Polan asked to pull Item 4G for discussion.

A List of Demands: June 7, 2022: Receive and file

B Minutes Regular Meeting of May 17, 2022 and Special Meeting of May 18, 2022: Approve

C Continuation of Local State of Emergency Due to Water Shortage from Statewide Drought

Approve the continuation of a local emergency declaration due to water shortage from the statewide drought.

D State of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position: April 2022

Receive and file the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position for the period ending on April 30, 2022.

E Monthly Cash and Investment Report: April 2022

Receive and file the monthly cash and investment report for April 2022.

F Re-adoption of 401(a) Deferred Compensation Plan Agreements

Pass, approve, and adopt proposed Resolution No. 2610 approving and adopting the provisions of Nationwide Financial Services, Inc. 401(a) Plan, and authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute the necessary documents for continuation of the existing 401(a) Deferred Compensation Program.

RESOLUTION NO. 2610

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE PROVISIONS OF NATIONWIDE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., 401(a) PLAN

(Reference is hereby made to Resolution No. 2610 on file in the District's Resolution Book and by this reference the same is incorporated herein.)

Director Polan moved to approve the Consent Calendar Items 4A through 4F. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR – SEPARATE ACTION ITEM

G Meter Reading Services Contract: Change Order

Authorize the General Manager to approve a change order with Alexander's Contract Services, Inc., in the amount of \$60,000, for continuation of meter reading services.

General Manager David Pedersen responded to a question regarding extending the contract with Alexander's Contract Services, Inc., pending completion of the Automated Meter Reading/Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMR/AMI) Project.

Director Renger moved to approve the Consent Calendar Item 4G. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Ursula Bosson, Customer Service Manager, responded to questions regarding how customers may determine whether an AMR/AMI meter has been installed at their property.

5. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS

A Legislative and Regulatory Updates

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, provided an update regarding SB 1157 (Hertzberg), which proposes to lower the existing indoor gallons per capita daily (GPCD) water use efficiency standard. He noted that the bill would be considered by the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife on June 14th, and the District had joined the Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) position to oppose this bill unless amended.

General Manager David Pedersen responded to a question regarding Senator Bob Hertzberg's current position regarding this bill by stating that Senator Hertzberg would be meeting with representatives from ACWA, California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA), WaterReuse, and California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) to discuss concerns with the proposed bill.

B Drought and Water Supply Conditions Update: Receive and file

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, presented the report and reviewed the Customer Service Drought Metrics for May 2022. He stated that staff would bring back an item on the next agenda for the Board to consider approving a contract with Water Wise to assist with conducting water surveys.

Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration, responded to questions regarding the allowable uses for penalty revenue collected for exceeding water budgets and for

wasteful water use.

A discussion ensued regarding a press event held at Director Lo-Hill's residence for a demonstration of installation of a flow restriction device, and an article in the *Los Angeles Times* featuring Field Customer Service Representative Cason Gilmer.

John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations, reported that normally at this time of year water demand would be 20 million gallons per day (MGD), and due to water conservation efforts water demand had decreased to 12 to 13 MGD resulting in a 30 to 40 percent water use reduction. He responded to questions regarding the inflow to the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) compared to the change in potable water demand. General Manager David Pedersen stated that staff could review the influent flow to Tapia and potable water demands to see how closely they align on non-irrigation days.

Mr. Zhao also provided an update regarding the request for water allocation for fire protection and noted that representatives from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) would meet with representatives from the state on the District's behalf. He also noted that District staff was working on obtaining as many letters of support as possible from elected officials and Fire Chiefs.

6. TREASURER

Director Lo-Hill stated that the Treasurer's report was in order.

7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A Board Member Use of Electronic Communication Devices Policy

Approve the proposed Board Member Use of Electronic Communication Devices Policy.

Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the report.

Director Polan moved to approve Item 7A. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

Mr. Patterson responded to questions regarding the Cellular Device Reimbursement policy for employees and the ability for the Board to decline the stipend.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

8. FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

A 2022 Report on Water Quality Relative to Public Health Goals: Public Hearing

Conduct a public hearing, and receive and file the 2022 Report on Water Quality Relative to Public Health Goals

Board President Lewitt provided introductory remarks.

Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board, presented an affidavit certifying that a notice of the public hearing was published in the *Las Virgenes-Calabasas Enterprise* on May 26, 2022.

Board President Lewitt opened the public hearing at **9:29 a.m.**

John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the report.

There were no public comments.

Ms. Guzman confirmed the District received no written or verbal comments.

Board President Lewitt closed the public hearing at **9:30 a.m.**

Mr. Zhao responded to questions regarding sampling the water imported from MWD and from the District's distribution system.

Director Renger moved to approve Item 8A. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A Organization Reports

Director Caspary reported that he attended the ACWA Spring Conference May 2nd through 5th, and noted that he and staff met with Legislators to request additional water supplies for fire safety.

Board President Lewitt reported that he also attended the ACWA Spring Conference, and he had the opportunity to meet with elected officials and network with other State Water Project-dependent areas.

B Director's Reports on Outside Meetings

None.

C General Manager Reports

(1) General Business

General Manager David Pedersen reported that water demand in the District's service area was decreasing, and he stated that media attention, the Town Hall meeting, outreach, and the change in irrigation schedule were helpful and making a difference. He also reported that the Westlake Filtration Plant (WLFP) was currently running, and staff would supplement water received from MWD while also preserving water for emergencies. He noted diatomaceous earth is used as a filter media at the WLFP; however, a supply chain issue was being experienced as diatomaceous earth is used as an additive to

ethanol for gasoline. He noted that the Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority would meet on June 13th, and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) Governing Board would meet in the District’s Board Room on June 16th. He stated that he would provide an overview on the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo at the SMBRC Government Board Meeting, followed by a tour of the Pure Water Demonstration Facility. He also reported that he, Calleguas Municipal Water District General Manager Tony Goff, and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Director of Water Resources David Pettijohn met with MWD General Manager Adel Hagekhalil and MWD Executive Officer and Assistant General Manager Deven Upadhyay to discuss water supply challenges, share customers’ feedback, and request a commitment to a solution. He noted that MWD staff would propose an action item at the MWD Board Meeting in August to formulate and approve a commitment regarding this matter.

A discussion ensued regarding impacts from fuel costs and surcharges due to supply chain issues related to diatomaceous earth and inflation, and diesel fuel supply for emergency generators.

(2) Follow-Up Items

None.

D Directors’ Comments

None.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

12. CLOSED SESSION

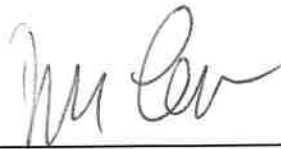
A Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b), Significant Exposure to Litigation): Two cases

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 9:44 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 11:00 a.m.

Keith Lemieux, District Counsel, announced that the Board received reports in Closed Session, and there were no reportable actions.

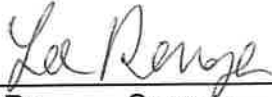
13. OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at 11:01 a.m.



Jay Lewitt, President
Board of Directors
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

ATTEST:



Lee Renger, Secretary
Board of Directors
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

(SEAL)